

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 16, 2004**

*Media Office
Democratic Caucus
John Schorg, Director
Statehouse, Room 157
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
1-800-382-9842 or 1-317-232-9621
Fax Number: 1-317-232-9792*

REP. CHENEY APPOINTED TO COMMITTEES

INDIANAPOLIS—State Rep. Duane Cheney (D-Portage) has been appointed to three House committees that will consider a wide range of legislative issues affecting the daily lives of Hoosiers.

House Democrat Leader B. Patrick Bauer (D-South Bend) announced that Cheney will be the ranking member of the Employment & Labor Committee. In addition, he will serve on the Education and the Family, Children & Human Affairs committees.

"Duane Cheney has an ideal background to serve on these important committees," said Bauer. "Duane worked with the Indiana State Teachers Association for several years, so he understands labor issues as well as education issues. In addition, he has been a champion of families and children during his legislative career, so he is a natural fit for that committee as well. Rep. Cheney is one of the finest state legislators serving Indiana. He will continue to make great contributions to our state."

Cheney has played a pivotal role in many legislative areas. Last session he authored several bills, including one to protect employees under the age of 18 from potentially violent situations. Another Cheney bill encouraged parental involvement in their children's education. Additionally, he worked to prevent ID theft by providing greater security for personal privacy.

"These three legislative committees are of great interest to me," said Cheney. "The issues we will review in them also are of critical importance to the people of our area. We must dedicate ourselves to economic development and the creation of good-paying jobs. A crucial part of economic development is the availability of quality education to all Hoosiers, from kindergarten through post-graduate work. We must retain our educators by providing a good salary and we need to have smaller class sizes so teachers can devote more personalized attention to their students.

"In addition to all of the above," Cheney added, "we have to protect our state's children and families. We must never let our young people become an after-thought. They are the future of our communities, our state and our country. By nurturing and protecting our children, we ensure our leaders of tomorrow will be empowered to build Indiana into a mecca of opportunity for future generations."

Cheney will serve on the above-mentioned committees in the 2005 and 2006 sessions of the Indiana General Assembly.

-30-

This release can be accessed on the Internet at www.IN.gov/H10